(i) Shri Kirpal Singh representing Govind Sadan Institute for Advanced Studies in Comparative Religion, Mehrauli, New Delhi-30;

(ii) Capt. Kr. Vikram Singh representing the Samyukt Kshatriya Mahasangh, Safdarjang Enclave, New Delhi-10;

(iii) Shri Paramjit Singh Sarna representing the Sikh Gurudwara Management Committee, New Delhi-01; and,

(iv) Shri Khilli Mal Jain representing the Digambar Jain Mahasamiti, Alwar-301001.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Translation of Textbooks

1244. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Jamia Millia Islamia and NCERT would be jointly translating school textbooks in Urdu;

(b) if so, whether Government are thinking of similar translation in other regional languages like Punjabi, Marathi, etc.; and

(c) the number of Urdu medium schools of Middle and Secondary levels?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) Yes, Sir. NCERT has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Jamia Millia Islamia dated 14th September, 2005 whereby Jamia Millia Islamia will provide the Urdu translation of NCERT textbooks.

(b) No, Sir. As per present policy, NCERT publishes school textbooks in English, Hindi and Urdu only.

(c) Information on the number of Urdu medium schools is not available at the Central Government level as Education is in the concurrent list.

India's Rank in UNESCO Report

1245. SHRI R.K. ANAND: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that UNESCO's Education for All development index for 2004 has ranked India 105th out of 127; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) and (b) In the UNESCO's Education For All Global Monitoring Report 2005, India has been ranked at 105th with Education For All Development Index 0.700 among 127 participating countries.

Excess Engineering Seats

1246. SHRI R.K. ANAND: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that engineering seats on offer in the country far exceed demands; and

(b) if so, whether roughly 20 per cent of all engineering seats remained vacant last year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) and (b) As per the information furnished by the All India Council for Technical Education, about 20% of the sanctioned seats in engineering colleges for the year 2004-05 remained unfilled. Besides the current demands for certain disciplines, actual admissions depend on several other factors such as facilities provided by the institute, faculty available, location of the institution etc.

Infrastructure Requirement for Schools

†1247. SHRI LAXMINARAYAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether increase in the number of students has been estimated in the secondary schools during the year 2007-08 as a result of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan;

(b) the estimated percentage of increase and the details regarding development of infrastructure for the secondary schools for the increased number of students;

(c) whether there is any central scheme for setting up new secondary schools;

(d) whether any new scheme is being contemplated;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.